

# Formula Auditing G+ Follow 9.7k

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Formula auditing in Excel allows you to display the relationship between formulas and cells. The example below helps you master Formula Auditing quickly and easily.

C13		f <sub>x</sub> =ROUNDUP(C10/C12,0)		
A	B	C	D	E
1				
2	Day out - Boat trip			
3				
4	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>		
5	Boat rent	\$ 400.00		
6	Boat fuel	\$ 33.00		
7	Life vests	\$ 20.00		
8	Picnic	\$ 68.00		
9	Dinner	\$ 240.00		
10	Total cost	\$ 761.00		
11				
12	Group size	8		
13	Cost per person	\$ 96.00		
14				
15				

## Chapter

[Formula Errors](#)

## Learn more, it's easy

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## Download Excel File

[formula-auditing.xls](#)

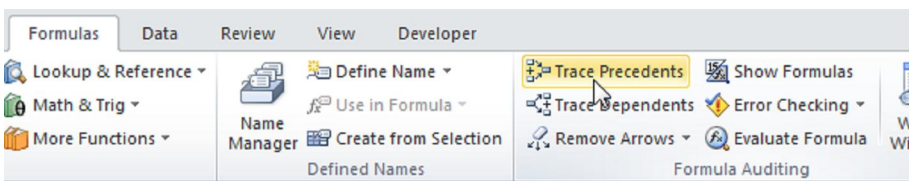
## Follow Excel Easy



## Trace Precedents

You have to pay \$96.00. To show arrows that indicate which cells are used to calculate this value, execute the following steps.

1. Select cell C13.
2. On the Formulas tab, in the Formula Auditing group, click Trace Precedents.



Result:

C13    fx    =ROUNDUP(C10/C12,0)					
	A	B	C	D	E
1					
2		Day out - Boat trip			
3					
4		<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>		
5		Boat rent	\$ 400.00		
6		Boat fuel	\$ 33.00		
7		Life vests	\$ 20.00		
8		Picnic	\$ 68.00		
9		Dinner	\$ 240.00		
10		Total cost	\$ 761.00		
11					
12		Group size	8		
13		Cost per person	\$ 96.00		
14					
15					

As expected, Total cost and Group size are used to calculate the Cost per person.

3. Click Trace Precedents again.

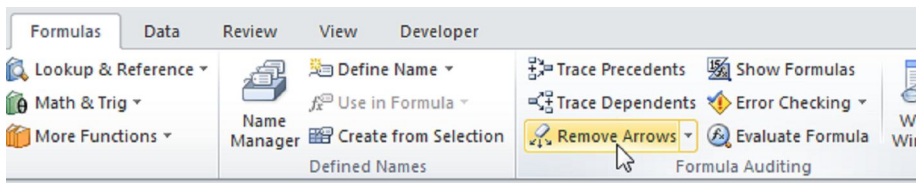
C13    fx    =ROUNDUP(C10/C12,0)					
	A	B	C	D	E
1					
2		Day out - Boat trip			
3					
4		<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>		
5		Boat rent	\$ 400.00		
6		Boat fuel	\$ 33.00		
7		Life vests	\$ 20.00		
8		Picnic	\$ 68.00		
9		Dinner	\$ 240.00		
10		Total cost	\$ 761.00		
11					
12		Group size	8		
13		Cost per person	\$ 96.00		
14					
15					

As expected, the different costs are used to calculate the Total cost.

## Remove Arrows

To remove the arrows, execute the following steps.

1. On the Formulas tab, in the Formula Auditing group, click Remove Arrows.

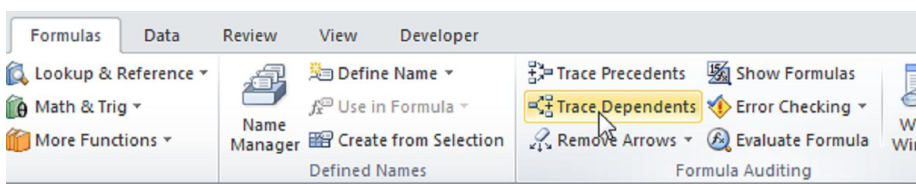


## Trace Dependents

To show arrows that indicate which cells depend on a selected cell, execute the following steps.

1. Select cell C12.

2. On the Formulas tab, in the Formula Auditing group, click Trace Dependents.



Result:

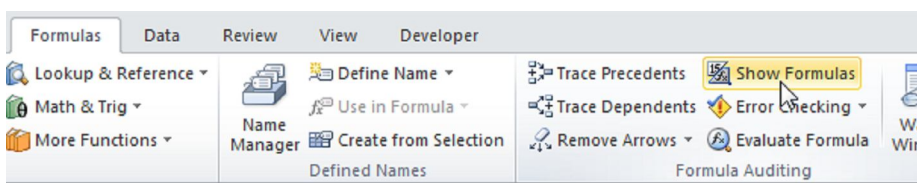
	A	B	C	D	E
1					
2		Day out - Boat trip			
3					
4		<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>		
5		Boat rent	\$ 400.00		
6		Boat fuel	\$ 33.00		
7		Life vests	\$ 20.00		
8		Picnic	\$ 68.00		
9		Dinner	\$ 240.00		
10		Total cost	\$ 761.00		
11					
12		Group size	8		
13		Cost per person	\$ 96.00		
14					
15					

As expected, the Cost per person depends on the Group size.

## Show Formulas

By default, Excel shows the results of formulas. To show the formulas instead of their results, execute the following steps.

1. On the Formulas tab, in the Formula Auditing group, click Show Formulas.



Result:

	A	B	C	D
1				
2		Day out - Boat trip		
3				
4		<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	
5		Boat rent	400	
6		Boat fuel	33	
7		Life vests	20	
8		Picnic	68	
9		Dinner	240	
10		Total cost	=SUM(C5:C9)	
11				
12		Group size	8	
13		Cost per person	=ROUNDUP(C10/C12,0)	
14				
15				

Note: instead of clicking Show Formulas, you can also press CTRL + (=). You can find this key above the tab key.

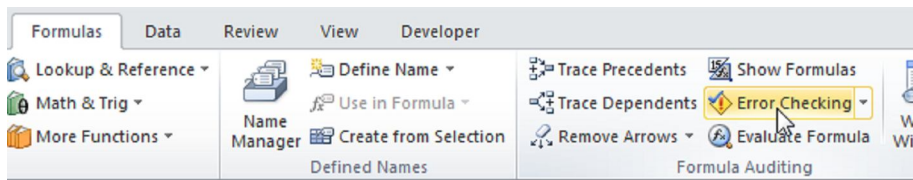
## Error Checking

To check for common errors that occur in formulas, execute the following steps.

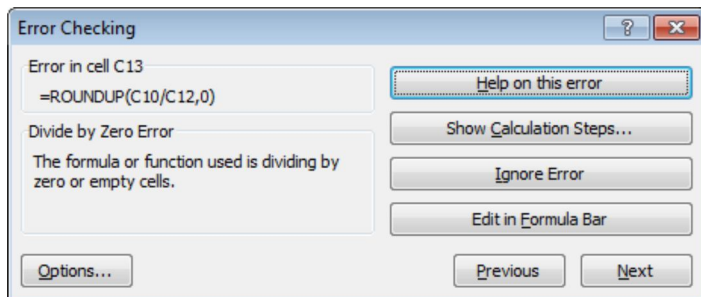
1. Enter the value 0 into cell C12.

C13		=ROUNDUP(C10/C12,0)		
A	B	C	D	E
1				
2	Day out - Boat trip			
3				
4	Description	Amount		
5	Boat rent	\$ 400.00		
6	Boat fuel	\$ 33.00		
7	Life vests	\$ 20.00		
8	Picnic	\$ 68.00		
9	Dinner	\$ 240.00		
10	Total cost	\$ 761.00		
11				
12	Group size	0		
13	Cost per person	#DIV/0!		
14				
15				

2. On the Formulas tab, in the Formula Auditing group, click Error Checking.



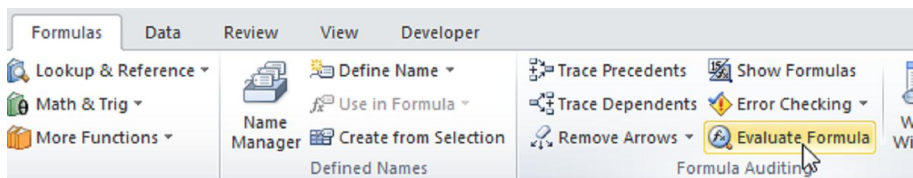
Result. Excel finds an error in cell C13. The formula tries to divide a number by 0.



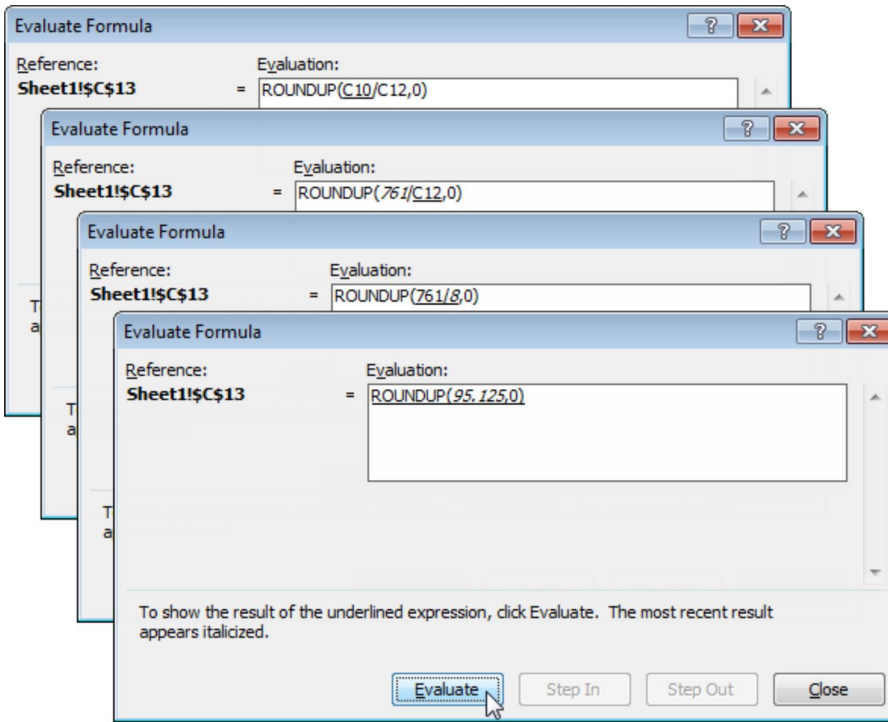
## Evaluate Formula

To debug a formula by evaluating each part of the formula individually, execute the following steps.

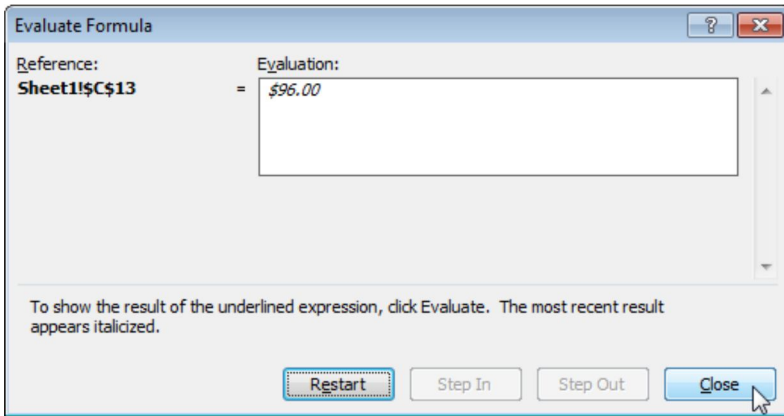
1. Select cell C13.
2. On the Formulas tab, in the Formula Auditing group, click Evaluate Formula.



3. Click Evaluate four times.



Excel shows the formula result.



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**Learn more about formula errors, use the side menu >>**

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